

February 3, 1976

PRESIDENT: Senator Mills.

SENATOR MILLS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I have a question for Senator Murphy. I am sure he can answer it. Senator Murphy, you mentioned premium adjustment. I want to ask you, Senator Murphy, when you talk about premium adjustment, does that affect the people in the State of Nebraska such as the premium adjustment we just received that says your current billing rate was \$59.73. We are happy to tell you that you just received an adjustment rate of \$17.24 bringing your nice annual monthly premium to \$76.97. Signed, Sincerely, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Nebraska. Thank you, people in the State of Nebraska. We are really putting it on you. You don't need to answer the question.

SENATOR MURPHY: You are a real sweetheart and I would tell you that this is Senator Keyes' bill and that goes to the heart of the bill and I would just as soon that he would address himself to that proposition, Senator. Again, I would move the adoption of the Committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion. Record your vote. Please vote. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to adopt the Committee amendments, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. The Committee amendments are adopted. Anything further, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: No further amendments on the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, this bill is very simple. When you reach, if you folks that are here will listen just a moment, when you reach the age of 23, there is no provision for you to be included in the coverage of your insurance policy from then on unless this bill becomes law, and this will just simply say that when you are handicapped or when you are mentally retarded, when you reach the age of 23, insurance companies offering insurance in Nebraska must make a policy available to you in group insurance. I think Blue Cross-Blue Shield do this now. They certainly...them and Mutual of Omaha did not object to it. They said that they thought these people needed coverage and certainly they were in favor of it. So I know of no opposition. I have received letters from parents who say it will be very nice that I can get my child covered by a health and accident policy after he is 23. He is unable to make a living for himself and someplace someone has to provide insurance for him. So I move for the advancement of this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Keyes, if he will yield please.

SENATOR KEYES: Yes.